

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for analyzing at least one analyte, comprising:

_____ a container;

a biochip ~~with a support~~, comprising:

an active face including an active surface onto which are distributed and bound a plurality of ligands used for the analysis and a peripheral zone,

at least one face opposite to the active face, and

a transverse peripheral strip connecting the active and opposite faces and comprising several sides; and

_____ a container; and

an attachment means placed on opposite lateral sides of the active face of the biochip and connecting the transverse peripheral strip of the biochip, excluding any other part, face or surface of the biochip, to the container, completely exposing the peripheral zone of the active face of the biochip, the attachment means including means that are flexible at a level of the transverse peripheral strip and exert a pressure on the transverse peripheral strip of the biochip to facilitate positioning and/or maintaining in position of the biochip, the container and the biochip delimiting a reaction compartment, the biochip being in contact with the container only via the attachment means.

2. (Currently Amended) A device for analyzing at least one analyte, comprising:

_____ a container having a window;

a biochip ~~with a support~~, comprising:

an active face including an active surface onto which are distributed and bound a plurality of ligands used for the analysis and a peripheral zone,

at least one face opposite to the active face, and

a transverse peripheral strip connecting the active and opposite faces, comprising several sides; and

~~a container having a window, through which the biochip is attached via an~~
attachment means placed on opposite lateral sides of the active face of the biochip that
attaches the biochip to the container through the window, the attachment means including
means that are flexible at a level of the window and exert a pressure on the transverse
peripheral strip of the biochip to facilitate positioning and/or maintaining in position of the
biochip, the biochip and the container delimiting a reaction compartment, the attachment
means of the biochip connecting the transverse peripheral strip of the biochip excluding any
other part of the biochip, to a frame of the window of the container in order to expose the
peripheral zone of the active face of the biochip.

3. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the frame of the window has an edge parallel to the transverse strip of the biochip.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the attachment means completely exposes the active face.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the active surface merges with the surface of the active face.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the attachment means is an adhesive.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the container window has a transverse profile substantially identical to that of the ~~support of the~~ biochip.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the window of the container is equipped with a means for allowing a

surplus of adhesive to be stored without the adhesive overflowing onto the peripheral zone of the biochip.

9. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the means for allowing a surplus of adhesive consists of a beveled shape at a level of the window of the container.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that an interstice between the border of the window and the transverse strip of the biochip is between 2 mm and 0.05 mm, advantageously between 0.5 mm and 0.05 mm, and preferentially between 0.2 mm and 0.1 mm.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the attachment means extends along the entire transverse strip of the biochip.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the attachment means connects two opposite zones of the transverse strip, to the container.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the adhesive comprises a component which can be cured by ultraviolet radiation.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the ~~support of the~~ biochip is a parallelepiped, the active and opposite faces of which are each rectangular or square.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the reaction compartment is arranged so as to bring a liquid medium, subjected to the analysis, and the active surface of the biochip into contact.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 15, characterized in that the attachment means ensures that the reaction compartment is leaktight with respect to the outside.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the active surface of the biochip has a surface area of less than 100 mm^2 , advantageously less than 65 mm^2 , and preferentially less than 30 mm^2 .

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the active surface of the biochip represents at least 75% of the surface area of the active face.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the ligands are nucleic acids.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the means for storing a surplus of adhesive consists of a concavity present on all or part of the surround of the window of the container.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim ~~21~~1, characterized in that the flexible means consist of two interdependent components, namely an intermediate component inclined relative to the opposite face of the biochip, and an end component substantially perpendicular to the opposite face, the end component exerting a pressure on the transverse strip of the biochip.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~analytical~~ device as claimed in claim ~~21~~1, characterized in that the flexible means comprise claws, the cross section of the claws being substantially triangular.

24. (Previously Presented) A process for attaching a biochip to a container, for producing an analytical device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the biochip is

maintained opposite the container, in that a liquid adhesive seal is distributed between the transverse strip of the biochip and the container, and in that the adhesive is cured by ultraviolet radiation.

25. (Currently Amended) The attachment process as claimed in claim 24, wherein the container includes a window having a frame, characterized in that the biochip is positioned relative to the container so as to place the transverse strip of the biochip opposite the frame of the window of the container.

26. (Previously Presented) The attachment process as claimed in claim 25, characterized in that the at least one of the biochip and the container is maintained on a positioning means by applying a vacuum.

27. (Currently Amended) The attachment process as claimed in claim 24, characterized in that ultraviolet radiation is applied to the adhesive seal on at least one of the faces of the analytical device.

28. (Previously Presented) The attachment process as claimed in claim 24, characterized in that a mask is positioned between the biochip and the ultraviolet radiation in order to protect the ligands.

29. (New) The device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the flexible means consists of two interdependent components inclined relative to the opposite face of the biochip, and an end component substantially perpendicular to the opposite face, the end component exerting a pressure on the transverse peripheral strip of the biochip.